

The Punta Gorda Herald

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PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, SEPT. 9, 1915.

Tampa Times and State Officials

The Tampa Times of Saturday last says that The Herald criticized it because the Times "demanded that state officials do their duty," and then it says that Clay Crawford, Tom West and Billy Sheats were not included in the animadversions of the Times, but that only Treasurer Luning and Comptroller Knott were the subjects of its injurious reflections. The Times made no exceptions in its previous wholesale denunciations of the state officials, referring to them as the "state-house crowd," "the Tallahassee ring" and other expressions indicating the Times belief that all the state officials were banded together to keep themselves in office. Now, the Times says that it has no personal feeling against Luning and Knott, but it keeps on reflecting upon them, although the former, at least, has made a complete and satisfactory explanation of his supposed responsibility in connection with the failure of that Jacksonville insurance company. The Times says that all it has demanded has been that Luning and Knott do their duty. Well, hey have done their duty and are still doing it.

For goodness' sake, Uncle Joe!—you intellectual leviathan of the Lakeland Telegram—we don't want to be charged with editorial egotism and presumption in recalling to your recollection the fact that Florida has no congressman at large. You say, "We forgot about the congressman at large" when Claude L'Engle was and is the only man in Florida who ever enjoyed that distinction and who will ever enjoy it until the next federal census is taken. Florida has four straight congressmen and they are straight in more senses than one.

During the summer just ended, the cattle owners of Lee, DeSoto, Polk and Osceola counties have shipped thousands of cattle to the great packers of the West. Even now these cattle may be coming back to Florida in the guise of "prime Western beef," for which we pay 22c a pound and up. There should, by all means, be a big packing house at Tampa to convert Florida cattle into merchantable beef.

The Tampa papers would do well to re-print from Tuesday's Times-Union the editorial leader about the "great need of a packing house" and apply it to Tampa. That there ought to be a packing house in Tampa is evident to every thoughtful citizen of South Florida. Amongst other stronger reasons for it is the fact that Tampa's fertilizer factories could use all the waste from a packing house.

That live, enterprising and admirable daily, the Tampa Tribune, has sent to its local agents big

display cards announcing that it will give full details of the Mendenhall murder trial in Clearwater. Of course the Tribune will do that and do it well, if there is ever such a trial. A man in The Herald office expresses the idea that Mendenhall will not be tried until Guy Stempel disappears.

According to the railroad officials and to Florida tourists returning from trips abroad every body and his wife and children are coming to Florida this winter. There's plenty of room, sunshine and grub for them; so, let them come.

Storm? Who said storm? There was a red flag upon the bayshore, a breeze and rain, but we don't call those a storm. We heard, though, they had a storm at Cedar Keys and Appalachicola. At Punta Gorda there may sometimes be something of a storm indoors, but never outdoors.

Legislation for Newspapers

It may be well to explain that, after the committee on legislation appointed by the South Florida Press Association had completed the report to be presented at the meeting in Jacksonville on Oct. 21-23rd prox., the Punta Gorda correspondent of the Tampa Tribune requested a copy of it for publication. His request was granted on the idea that it would be in the nature of a notice to editors and publishers as to what subjects were embraced in the report and afford them time to consider it before the Jacksonville meeting. It was thought, also, that the publication of the report would awaken enough interest in some apparently indifferent newspaper men to induce them to attend the meeting and co-operate with members of the various press associations in their efforts to obtain simple justice for Florida newspapers.

Some of the objects contemplated in giving out the report for publication have been accomplished. Some discussion has been elicited. The Tampa Tribune began it by declaring that the whole report contemplated a newspaper Utopia impossible of realization in any of its features. This, notwithstanding the fact that a practical plan is submitted for securing justice for the newspapers, the success of the plan depending merely upon the willingness of the newspapers to stand together. The Tribune, however, admits that all the demands contained in the report are just and right. It should, therefore, send a representative to the Jacksonville meeting to assist in formulating a plan to secure the justice demanded.

The Ocala Star, Clearwater Sun and a few other papers object to the proposition to repeal the law prohibiting railroads from exchanging transportation for advertising. The Sarasota Sun argues that newly established pa-

pers should be eligible for legal advertising. All the papers which have discussed the report agree that the libel law should be changed. But few of the papers which have manifested an interest in these matters are members of either the South Florida or the East Coast Press Association. All of them owe it as a duty to themselves to attend the Jacksonville meeting, become members of one of the associations and co-operate with their brethren in their efforts to secure fair treatment for the newspapers.

All of these newspapers are urging co-operation on the part of fruit and vegetable growers, but when it comes to co-operation for themselves, some of them are strangely indifferent.

In conclusion, it may be stated that the report on legislation has not yet been adopted; it will be presented at the Jacksonville meeting, and all newspapers feeling an interest in it should send a representative to that meeting to join in the discussion of the report and to move any amendment that may be desired.

It has been decided to hold the South Florida Fair in Tampa during the week beginning Feb. 4th and ending Feb. 12th, 1916. Liberal prizes will be offered in all departments, and it behooves DeSoto county producers and manufacturers to begin now their preparations to capture all the prizes as they did several years ago. DeSoto county boosters for this fair have been named as follows: Ed Scott, T. B. King, W. G. Wells, J. L. Jones, Arcadia; A. G. Smith, Wauchula; George Sebring, Sebring; Senator F. M. Cooper, Punta Gorda; Burdette Loomis, Jr., Boca Grande; W. R. Minor Bowling Green.

Some Florida growers seem to feel that the growers of other states do not have as many setbacks as they have. Shucks, did you hear about the losses in Texas, Kansas, Missouri and several other states from floods? Did you hear about the farmers in North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Jersey and other states getting nothing for many of their crops? In every one of these states it costs more to live and keep warm than it does in Florida. Quit kicking along that line and be darned glad that you are living in such a grand old state.—Florida Growers News.

Clearwater Sun:—One of the most unjust laws passed by the last legislature is that which relates to seine fishing. It is opposed by the professional fishermen as well as the majority of people who have heretofore seined for fish for private use. The law prescribes that these people must pay a license as seine fishermen. It would seem that every man should have the privilege of catching fish for his own table in any manner he sees fit, without paying a li-

For the past fifteen years, tourist merchants who regularly come to Florida in the late fall and engage in business only during the winter months, leaving the state in the spring, have been permitted by the Miami municipal authorities to do business without taking out a license, but the year-round, permanent merchants had to pay the license tax. Now, what would you say about those Miami officials?

What the dickens does Miss Agnes Ellen Harris know about guavas? We doubt if she ever saw more than a peck of them or cooked as many as a dozen. She should make a tour of careful inquiry through Manatee, Lee and DeSoto counties before she undertakes to instruct housewives of this region how to utilize guavas. Miss Harris, however, is a queenly, superb, accomplished woman.

The Home of Quality Groceries.



Nearly all the Fleshy People in Town are Among our Patrons. That is our Strongest Bid for Thin Peoples Trade.

F. R. Blount

Punta Gorda, - - - Florida.

The Sure Thing

Concrete Building Blocks will never Rot or decay. We Manufacture Blocks that will stand both the rain and the sun—the kind that will never wear. If you contemplate building let us manufacture your blocks.

CLAYTON L. PORTER, TAYLOR STREET, PUNTA GORDA.

BARTOW STEAM LAUNDRY

ADAM SILCOX, Agent

The best equipped laundry in South Florida. If you are the least particular about good work leave your laundry bundle at

MCCLELLAND'S

BASKET CLOSES EVERY TUESDAY AT NOON.

Fresh...Choice BEEF and PORK

Veal, Salt Meats, Bacon, Ham and Sausage always on hand. 'Phone us your next order.

HOME MADE SAUSAGE OUR SPECIALTY

We also handle an exceptional line of groceries and canned goods. Your patronage solicited.

J. H. DAUHTRY & SONS,

In the sheet iron building on King Street. Punta Gorda, Fla.

Cleveland Steam Marine Railway

Yacht and Boat Storage
Boats Built and Repaired. Build and Repair Barges and Dredges

Geo. Brown, Prop.

Cleveland, Florida
Near Punta Gorda.

SUMMER TOURIST FARES

FROM JACKSONVILLE TO

Savannah and return.....\$6.00
Baltimore and return.....\$32.00
Washington and return.....\$34.00
Ashbury Park and return.....\$36.50
Pen Mar. and return.....\$35.50

New York and return.....\$35.00
Boston and return.....\$45.00
Providence and return.....\$43.00
Atlantic City and return.....\$36.50
Niagara Falls and return.....\$47.40

Steamers sail from Jacksonville via Savannah for Baltimore Wednesday and Saturday 4:00 p. m. To Philadelphia September 2, 12, 23, at 4:00 p. m. Steamship Somerset and Swanee have staterooms de luxe, with private baths. Write for "Summer Tour Book" with rates to hundreds of resorts.

Merchants & Miners Transportation Company,

Jacksonville, Florida.

STATE PRESS COMMENT

Macclenny Standard:—The senatorial race will be between Trammell and Gilchrist. Perry Wall may be a good man for the office, but he is not known as well as either of the above.

Key West Journal:—Now that Col. Jordan of the Punta Gorda Herald is back in harness again, we may shortly expect the firing of the big guns from the Gilchrist trenches around Punta Gorda.

Volusia County Record:—The Florida orange growers would be all right, would be certain profit from the sale of the forth-coming fruit crop, if they could get a rate of not exceeding \$100 to \$125 per car to get the fruit to the market.

Palatka Times-Herald:—With record-breaking yields of corn, potatoes and other necessities and with live stock and poultry in prime condition, the progressive Florida farmer, making his living at home, can well afford to feel independent this season.

Macclenny Standard:—Now, wouldn't it surprise you if S. J. Catts should come out the high man for governor. Many unexpected things happen, you know, and Mr. Catts is out in the rural districts working like the devil, and, believe me, there are a few votes outside of the cities in Florida.

Miami Metropolis:—They are coming, lovely Florida, and coming bad and strong—this is a poetic reference to the riff-raff, the crooks and the tramps and the freaks, who hear in the first blasts of Autumn a call to hike South where hand-outs are plentiful and good people "easy." Enforce that vagrancy law.

DeLand News:—Brother Jordan, of the Punta Gorda Herald, is respectfully referred to the Jacksonville Floridian and the Jacksonville Metropolis, as to the lost prestige of newspapers. These two papers, by educating public sentiment, forced the change of county commissioners. No change would have been effected but for these two papers.

Palatka News:—From a perusal of the State papers it is plain, that among gubernatorial candidates, Hon. W. V. Knott is a long way in the lead as a favorite with the people. Some papers advocate a candidate for personal and political reasons. The trained newspaper man can spot that sort of approval easily. But as a rule the papers are but an echo of public sentiment, and this sort of advocacy is also easily detected. Mr. Knott is the undoubted present favorite among the people, as he is with the press, which is but voicing the sentiment of the great body of voters.

Palatka News:—There will be little opposition to the candidacy of Hon. J. C. Luning for re-nomination to the office of State Treasurer; a mighty strong man will have to come out to beat McRae for Commissioner of Agriculture, and there is no disposition on the part of the lawyers of the State to interfere with Tom West's peaceful possession of the office of Attorney-General. As a successor to Comptroller W. V. Knott, the most talked of man at present is the Hon. Ernest Amos, the present State Auditor.

Hon. Will C. Langford of Arcadia, is boosting Prof. John W. Wideman of DeLand, for state superintendent of public instruction.

HEALTH AND HAPPINESS DEPEND UPON YOUR LIVER

That sluggish liver with its sluggish flow of bile is what makes the world look so dark at times. Dr. King's New Life Pills go straight to the root of the difficulty by waking up the action of the liver and increasing the bile. Dr. King's New Life Pills cause the bowels to act more freely and drive away those "moody days." 25c a bottle.

(Advertisement)